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In the Claims:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), please cancel claims 1-10 and 19, without prejudice. A complete listing of all the claims in the application is provided immediately below.

COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

1-10. (Canceled).

11. (Original) A method of fabricating a field-installable connector adapted to be mechanically spliced to a field optical fiber, comprising:

rotating a stub optical fiber secured within a ferrule of the field-installable connector; and

laser processing the stub optical fiber to create an endface by sweeping a laser beam directed at a preselected angle from perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the stub optical fiber back and forth across a surface of the rotating stub optical fiber.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11;

wherein an oscillating motion of the laser is driven by an intermittent sinusoidal signal resulting in at least one deposit of energy onto the stub optical fiber followed by a cooling period before a subsequent deposit of energy occurs; and

wherein a pulse duration and a laser energy are predetermined so that the stub optical fiber is progressively ablated without re-depositing ablated material or distorting the geometry of the remaining stub optical fiber.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the preselected angle ranges from about 10° to about 60° from perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the stub optical fiber.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the preselected angle ranges from about 25° to about 35° from perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the stub optical fiber.
15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the laser is focused to a spot size that is slightly larger than the diameter of the stub optical fiber.
16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the stub optical fiber is positioned from about 2 to about 2.5 fiber widths downward from an uppermost peak of a sinusoidal laser path and about 8 to about 10 fiber widths upward from a dwell position of the laser.
17. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of laser processing the stub optical fiber is achieved by impinging an amount of laser energy at a preselected laser intensity in the form of a Gaussian intensity distribution onto the stub optical fiber.
18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of laser processing the stub optical fiber creates a dome shaped endface having a protruding fiber core.
19. (Canceled).
20. (Original) A method of laser processing an optical fiber, comprising:
 - rotating the optical fiber; and
 - sweeping a beam of a laser directed at a preselected angle from perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the optical fiber back and forth across a surface of the rotating optical fiber;
 - wherein the laser is operated in a continuous mode;
 - wherein an oscillating motion of the laser is driven by an intermitting sinusoidal signal resulting in two deposits of energy onto the optical fiber followed by a cooling period before subsequent deposits of energy occur; and
 - wherein a pulse duration and an energy intensity of the laser are preselected so that the optical fiber is progressively ablated without re-depositing ablated material or distorting the

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geometry of the remaining optical fiber.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the preselected angle ranges from about 10° to about 60°.
22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the preselected angle ranges from about 25° to about 35°.
23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of sweeping a laser creates a dome shaped endface having a protruding fiber core on the optical fiber.